

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 20, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Generally, a near infrared absorption filter containing a near infrared-absorbing dye, is well known, and as applications ~~therefor~~ therefore, sunglasses, glasses for welding of buildings, automobiles, trains or planes, or an optical reader for reading out information, may, for example, be mentioned.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

To meet such a demand, JP-B-2-4881 proposes an optical filter made of a thermoplastic resin having a benzene dithiol type metal complex incorporated. Further, JP-B-6-38124 proposes a near infrared absorption film or plate containing at least one member among an anthraquinone compound and a naphthalocyanine type compound having a metal atom coordinated at the center. JP-A-4-174402 proposes an infrared absorption filter obtained by further polymerizing a and curing a synthetic resin composition containing an aluminum compound. Further, in recent years, as a filter for plasma display, JP-A-9-230134 proposes a filter for plasma display containing a dithiol type metal complex, and JP-A-10-78509 proposes a filter for plasma display containing a phthalocyanine dye.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 14, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Further, in recent years, as an aminothiophenolate type metal complex, a metal complex having a ligand of a type wherein N atom and N atom are connected via carbon, has

been reported by Kushi et al, Bull. Chem. Soc. Jpn.,70(7)(1997)1599-1606. Such a dye shows intense absorption in a near infrared region, but in the UV-Vis spectrum in a solution, it is in equilibrium with a precursor showing absorption in a visible region, thus showing absorption in both the near infrared region and the visible region, whereby there is a problem that when it is processed into a product by using a solvent, it has absorption in the visible region, and the transmittance in the visible region decreases.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

R<sub>1</sub> to R<sub>8</sub> each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group which may have a substituent, an aryl group which may have a substituent, an aralkyl group which may have a substituent, an alkoxy group which may have a substituent, an aryloxy group, a nitro group, a halogen atom, an amino group, a substituted amino group or a cyano group, preferably a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an aryl group, an aralkyl group, an alkoxy group, an aryloxy group, a nitro group, a halogen atom, an amino group, a substituted amino group or a ~~cyan~~ cyano group, more preferably a hydrogen atom; a C<sub>1-5</sub> alkyl group such as a methyl group, an ethyl group, an i-butyl group, a t-butyl group, a n-butyl group or a n-pentyl group; an aryl group; an aralkyl group such as a benzyl group or a phenethyl group; a C<sub>1-5</sub> alkoxy group such as a methoxy group, an ethoxy group, a t-butoxy group or a n-butoxy group; a C<sub>6-10</sub> aryloxy group such as a phenoxy group or a methylphenoxy group; a nitro group; a halogen atom such as a chlorine atom, a bromine atom or a fluorine atom; an amino group; a substituted amino group such as a dimethylamino group, a diethylamino group or a diphenylamino group; or a cyano group. Particularly preferred is a case where all of R<sub>1</sub> to R<sub>8</sub> are hydrogen atoms.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 24, with the following rewritten paragraph:

As the transparent substrate constituting the infrared absorption filter of the present invention, any substrate may be employed without any particular restriction so long as it is a substrate which is substantially transparent and has no substantial scattering or absorption. Specific examples thereof include[[,]] glass, a polyolefin resin, an amorphous polyolefin resin, a polyester resin, a polycarbonate resin, a poly(meth)acrylate resin, a polystyrene, a polyvinyl chloride, a polyvinyl acetate, a polyarylate resin and a polyether sulfone resin. Among them, particularly preferred is an amorphous polyolefin resin, a polyester resin, a polycarbonate resin, a poly(meth)acrylate resin, a polyarylate resin or a polyether sulfone resin.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 13, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Further, to the transparent substrate, surface treatment by a conventional method, such as ~~eolonna~~ corona discharge treatment, flame treatment, plasma treatment, glow discharge treatment, surface roughening treatment or chemical treatment, or coating of e.g. an anchor coat agent or a primer, may be applied.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Such an ultraviolet absorber may, for example, be ~~Tinubine~~ TINUBINE P, ~~Tinubine~~ TINUBINE 120, 213, 234, 320, 326, 327, 328, 329, 384, 400 or 571, manufactured by Ciba-Geigy Company, ~~Sumisorb~~ SUMISORB 250, 300 or 577, manufactured by Sumitomo

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Chemical Co., Ltd., ~~Biosorb~~ BIOSORB 582, 550 or 591, manufactured by Kyodo Chemical Co., Ltd., JF-86, 79, 78 or 80, manufactured by Johoku Chemical Co., Ltd., ~~Adecastsab~~ ADECASTSAB LA-32, LA-36 or LA-34, manufactured by Asahi Denka Kogyo K.K., ~~Seasorb~~ SEASORB 100, 101, 101S, 102, 103, 501, 201, 202 or 162NH, manufactured by Shipro Kasei Kaisha, Ltd., RUVA 93, 30M or 30S, manufactured by Otsuka Chemical Co., Ltd., or Yubinal 3039, manufactured by BASF.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Further, a fluorescent whitening agent such as ~~UbiteX~~ UBITEX OB or OB-P manufactured by ~~Chiba-Geigy~~ Ciba-Geigy Company, may also be utilized, which absorbs ultraviolet rays to change the wavelength to a visible region.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 31, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Further, as the ultraviolet screening film, a commercially available UV-screening filter may be employed. For example, SC-38 or SC-39 of Fuji Film Co., Ltd., or ~~Acryprene~~ ACRYPRENE of Mitsubishi Rayon Co., Ltd., may, for example, be mentioned. Both of the above-mentioned UV-screening filters SC-39 and ~~Acryprene~~ ACRYPRENE are ultraviolet screening films which absorb at least 99% of a wavelength of 350 nm.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 22, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

To 1.0 g of the above complex, ~~100 ml~~ 100 ml of THF was added, followed by refluxing until the reaction solution changed to a dark blue color. Thereafter, the filtration product was removed by filtration under reduced pressure, and then, the filtrate was concentrated to crystallize the product. Thereafter, crystals were subjected to filtration under reduced pressure and vacuum-dried at 60 °C to obtain 0.85 g (yield: 85.0%) of complex No. 3 of the following structure.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 26, line 30, with the following rewritten paragraph:

To 0.06 g of a 5 wt% THF solution of complex No. 1 obtained in Example 1, 1.5 g of a THF/toluene (=1/1) solution of a polymethyl methacrylate resin (~~Dianal~~ DIANAL BR-80, tradename, product of Mitsubishi Rayon Co., Ltd.) was added and completely dissolved by an ultrasonic washing machine. Then, this coating solution was coated on an OHP film by a bar coater #24 and dried to obtain a near infrared absorption film. The coated film thickness was about 6  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 27, line 18, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The light resistance was examined by carrying out the same operation as in Example 8 except that as an UV-screening filter, an UV-screening filter (~~Aeryprene~~ ACRYPRENE) manufactured by Mitsubishi Rayon Co., Ltd. was used instead of SC39. Irradiation was carried out for 400 hours, and the absorption intensity before and after the irradiation at 835 nm, was measured, whereby the dye-remaining ratio was 94.2%. Thus, high light resistance was confirmed.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 27, line 24, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The light resistance was examined by carrying out the same operation as in Example 8 except that as an UV-screening filter, SC39 and ~~Acryprene~~ ACRYPRENE were used as laminated, instead of SC39. Irradiation was carried out for 400 hours, and the absorption intensity before and after the irradiation at 835 nm, was measured, whereby the dye-remaining ratio was 94.5%. Thus, high light resistance was confirmed.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 28, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Further, on this film, an UV-screening filter (~~Acryprene~~ ACRYPRENE) manufactured by Mitsubishi Rayon Co., Ltd. was overlaid, followed by irradiation for 280 hours by a xenon long life fade meter (FAL-25AX-HCB-EC) (product of Suga Test Instruments Co., Ltd.), whereby the absorption intensity before and after the irradiation at 846 nm, was measured, whereby the intensity after the irradiation was 90.9% of the intensity before the irradiation. Thus, high light resistance was confirmed.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 28, line 27, with the following rewritten paragraph:

To 0.06 g of a 5 wt% THF solution of the complex dye obtained in Example 2, 1.5 g of a THF/toluene (=1/1) solution of a polymethyl methacrylate resin (~~Dianal~~ DIANAL BR-80, tradename, product of Mitsubishi Rayon Co., Ltd.) (resin concentration: 20 wt%) was added and completely dissolved by an ultrasonic washing machine. Then, this coating

solution was coated on an OHP film by a bar coater #24 and dried to obtain a near infrared absorption film. The coated film thickness was about 6  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 29, line 11, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The light resistance was examined by carrying out the same operation as in Example 13 except that as an UV-screening filter, ~~Acryprene~~ ACRYPRENE was used instead of SC39. Irradiation was carried out for 400 hours, and the absorption intensity before and after the irradiation at 835 nm, was measured, whereby the dye-remaining ratio was 90.4%. Thus, high light resistance was confirmed.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 29, line 17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The light resistance was examined by carrying out the same operation as in Example 13 except that as an UV-screening filter, SC39 and ~~Acryprene~~ ACRYPRENE were used as laminated, instead of SC39. Irradiation was carried out for 400 hours, and the absorption intensity before and after the irradiation at 835 nm, was measured, whereby the dye-remaining ratio was 95.0%. Thus, high light resistance was confirmed.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 29, line 23, with the following rewritten paragraph:

To 0.06 g of a 5 wt% THF solution of complex No. 3 obtained in Example 3, 1.5 g of a THF/toluene (=1/1) solution of a polymethyl methacrylate resin (~~Dianal~~ DIANAL BR-80, tradename, product of Mitsubishi Rayon Co., Ltd.) (resin concentration: 20 wt%) was added

and completely dissolved by an ultrasonic washing machine. Then, this coating solution was coated on an OHP film by a bar coater #24 and dried to obtain a near infrared absorption film. The coated film thickness was about 6  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 30, line 9, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The light resistance was examined by carrying out the same operation as in Example 16 except that as an UV-screening filter, ~~Aeryprene~~ ACRYPRENE was used instead of SC39. Irradiation was carried out for 400 hours, and the absorption intensity before and after the irradiation at 835 nm, was measured, whereby the dye-remaining ratio was 91.5%. Thus, high light resistance was confirmed.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 30, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The light resistance was examined by carrying out the same operation as in Example 16 except that as an UV-screening filter, SC39 and ~~Aeryprene~~ ACRYPRENE were used as laminated, instead of SC39. Irradiation was carried out for 400 hours, and the absorption intensity before and after the irradiation at 835 nm, was measured, whereby the dye-remaining ratio was 95.4%. Thus, high light resistance was confirmed.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 30, line 21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

To 0.06 g of a 5 wt% THF solution of the complex dye obtained in Example 4, 1.5 g of a THF/toluene (=1/1) solution of a polymethyl methacrylate resin (~~Dianal~~ DIANAL BR-



80, tradename, product of Mitsubishi Rayon Co., Ltd.) (resin concentration: 20 wt%) was added and completely dissolved by an ultrasonic washing machine. Then, this coating solution was coated on an OHP film by a bar coater #24 and dried to obtain a near infrared absorption film. The coated film thickness was about 6  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 31, line 9, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The light resistance was examined by carrying out the same operation as in Example 19 except that as an UV-screening filter, ~~Aeryprene~~ ACRYPRENE was used instead of SC39. Irradiation was carried out for 400 hours, and the absorption intensity before and after the irradiation at 835 nm, was measured, whereby the dye-remaining ratio was 90.0%. Thus, high light resistance was confirmed.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 31, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The light resistance was examined by carrying out the same operation as in Example 19 except that as an UV-screening filter, SC39 and ~~Aeryprene~~ ACRYPRENE were used as laminated, instead of SC39. Irradiation was carried out for 400 hours, and the absorption intensity before and after the irradiation at 835 nm, was measured, whereby the dye-remaining ratio was 92.0%. Thus, high light resistance was confirmed.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 31, line 21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

To 0.06 g of a 5 wt% THF solution of complex No. 5 obtained in Example 5, 1.5 g of a THF/toluene (=1/1) solution of a polymethyl methacrylate resin (~~Dianal~~ DIANAL BR-80, tradename, product of Mitsubishi Rayon Co., Ltd.) (resin concentration: 20 wt%) was added and completely dissolved by an ultrasonic washing machine. Then, this coating solution was coated on an OHP film by a bar coater #24 and dried to obtain a near infrared absorption film. The coated film thickness was about 6  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 32, line 8, with the following rewritten paragraph:

To 0.8 part by weight of a 0.5 wt% methyl ethyl ketone solution of complex No. 1 obtained in Example 1, 1 part by weight of a methyl ethyl ketone/toluene (=1/1) solution of a polymethyl methacrylate resin (~~Dianal~~ DIANAL BR-80, tradename, product of Mitsubishi Rayon Co., Ltd.) (20 wt% solution) and 0.2 part by weight of toluene, were added to obtain a coating solution, which was coated on a polyethylene terephthalate having a thickness of 50  $\mu\text{m}$ , in a thickness of 2  $\mu\text{m}$ . On the above film, a multilayer vapor deposition film of silver/indium tin oxide (ITO) having a surface resistivity of 5  $\Omega/\square$ , was bonded.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 33, line 23, with the following rewritten paragraph:

To 0.8 part by weight of a 1 wt% MEK/toluene (=1/1) solution of a phthalocyanine dye (IR-3, manufactured by Nippon Shokubai Co., Ltd.) known as a near infrared-absorbing dye, 1 part by weight of a MEK/toluene (=1/1) solution of a polymethyl methacrylate resin (~~Dianal~~ DIANAL BR-80, tradename, product of Mitsubishi Rayon Co., Ltd.) (20 wt% solution), 0.1 part by weight of MEK and 0.1 part by weight of toluene were added to obtain

a coating solution, which was coated in a thickness of 2  $\mu\text{m}$  on a polyethylene terephthalate having a thickness of 50  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 35, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

To 0.06 g of a 5 wt% THF solution of this complex dye, 1.5 g of a THF/toluene (=1/1) solution of a polymethylmethacrylate resin (~~Dianal~~ DIANAL BR-80, tradename, product of Mitsubishi Rayon Co., Ltd.) (resin concentration: 20 wt%) was added and completely dissolved by an ultrasonic washing machine. Then, this coating solution was coated on an OHP film by a bar coater #24 and dried to obtain a near infrared absorption film. The coated film thickness was about 6  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 36, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Table 1

Example No.	Dye-remaining ratio % (without UV filter)		Dye-remaining ratio % (UV filter mounted)
	80 hr	400 hr	400 hr (in the brackets, the filter is identified)
Ex. 9			94.2 ( <del>Aeryprene</del> <u>ACRYPRENE</u> )
Ex. 10			94.5 ( <del>Aeryprene</del> <u>ACRYPRENE+SC39</u> )
Ex. 11			90.9 ( <del>Aeryprene</del> <u>ACRYPRENE</u> )
Ex. 13			89.8 (SC-39)
Ex. 14			90.4 ( <del>Aeryprene</del> <u>ACRYPRENE</u> )
Ex. 15			95.0 ( <del>Aeryprene</del>

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			<u>ACRYPRENE</u> +SC39)
Ex. 16			93.1 (SC-39)
Ex. 17			91.5 ( <del>Acryprene</del> <u>ACRYPRENE</u> )
Ex. 18			95.4 ( <del>Acryprene</del> <u>ACRYPRENE</u> +SC39)
Ex. 19			90.3 (SC-39)
Ex. 20			90.0 ( <del>Acryprene</del> <u>ACRYPRENE</u> )
Ex. 21			92.0 ( <del>Acryprene</del> <u>ACRYPRENE</u> +SC39)
Ex. 22	80.0		
Comp. Ex. 1	69.8		